Eligibility for Aid Policy -Last updated February of 2023

The See You Collective Mutual Aid application has been designed with accessibility and sensitivity to students' unique experiences and hardships in mind. The fund seeks to reduce the need for students to document the difficulties and trauma associated with finances, while ensuring that lived experiences are centered within the review process, all with the objective of minimizing students' financial insecurity.

The fund is accessible to all Clark students, graduate or undergraduate, enrolled in the University full- or part-time residing in the Worcester area. Although the fund's goal is to reduce financial insecurity, due to budget limits, applicants should be aware that we do not have the ability to prevent debt; however, we will take debt and other financial burdens into account when evaluating requests pertaining to essential costs.

The Fund is intended to assist those students who face financial difficulty obtaining:

- Necessary medical expenses
- Basic dietary necessities relating to food and sustenance
- Expenses related to utilities such as rent, heating, and electricity
- Gender-affirming clothing
- Minor tuition-associated costs such as late fees or partial payments
- Materials necessary for one's educational well-being (e.g., books, software, art supplies)

As a collective we prioritize requests addressing medical necessity, survival needs such as food and housing, and requests that address dangerous situations. We do accept requests pertaining to tuition payments or fees, however, they are evaluated relative to our available budget and secondary to survival-based requests. The amounts given in response to requests will vary depending upon a variety of factors including available budget, number of requests, type or urgency of requests, and information provided in form submissions.

Notes on our application process:

- Students should seek to apply for aid at least a week before the due date of an expense.
- If we are unable to fulfill your request in full or to the degree required, we will make an effort to reach out and connect you with other available resources.
- We ask those requesting aid to review our public budget/financial transparency statement in order to be informed of our organizational capacity
- We define crowdfunding as the public or semi-public gathering of funds for a particular purpose. We ask those requesting aid to disclose if they are participating in crowdfunding and keep us updated on progress in order to equitably evaluate need.
- The list above is not exhaustive, and the Mutual Aid Fund organizers recognize extenuating circumstances exist which are not captured by the examples given.